

# Generalized Syzygies for Commutative Koszul Algebras

Joint Work in Progress with Vassily Gorbounov (Aberdeen)  
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CSASC 2011 "Categorical Algebra, Homotopy Theory, and  
Applications"

Donau Universität Krems

September 27, 2011

# Towards generalized syzygies

## Definition: Koszul homology

Let  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  be a sequence of elements in a commutative  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra  $A$ . Let  $W$  be an  $n$ -dimensional complex vector space with basis  $\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n\}$ . The **Koszul homology** of  $A$  with respect to the sequence  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is the homology of the complex

$$A \otimes \bigwedge W,$$

where  $A$  has homological degree zero, each  $\theta_i$  has homological degree one, and the **Koszul differential** is given by the formula

$$d_K = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i}.$$

# Koszul Algebras (I)

## Definition: Quadratic algebra

Let  $A$  be a positively graded connected algebra, locally finite-dimensional.  $A$  is called **quadratic** if it is determined by a vector space of generators  $V = A_1$  and subspace of quadratic relations  $I \subset A_1 \otimes A_1$

## Definition: Koszul quadratic dual

The **Koszul dual** algebra  $A^!$  associated with a quadratic algebra  $A$  is

$$A^! = T(V^*)/I^\perp,$$

where  $I^\perp \subset V^* \otimes V^*$  is the annihilator of  $I$ . Clearly  $A^{!!} = A$ .

## Koszul algebras (II)

Definition: Koszul algebra

A quadratic as above is a **Koszul algebra** iff

$$A^! \cong \text{Ext}_A^*(\mathbb{k}, \mathbb{k})$$

# Lie superalgebras (I)

## Definition: Lie superalgebra

A **Lie superalgebra** over  $\mathbb{C}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded vector space (over  $\mathbb{C}$ )  $L = L_{(0)} \oplus L_{(1)}$  with a map  $[\cdot, \cdot] : L \otimes L \rightarrow L$  of  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded spaces, satisfying:

- 1 (anti-symmetry)  $[x, y] = -(-1)^{|x||y|}[y, x]$  for all homogeneous  $x, y \in L$ ,
- 2 (Jacobi identity)  $(-1)^{|x||z|}[x, [y, z]] + (-1)^{|y||x|}[y, [z, x]] + (-1)^{|z||y|}[z, [x, y]] = 0$  for all homogeneous  $x, y, z \in L$ .

## Lie superalgebras (II)

### Definition: Lie superalgebra (continued)

Here  $|x|$  is the parity of  $x$ :  $|x| = i$  when  $x \in L_{(i)}$  for  $i = 0, 1$ . An element  $x$  in  $L_{(0)}$  or  $L_{(1)}$  is termed even or odd respectively. We recover the familiar definition of a Lie algebra (over  $\mathbb{C}$ ) in the case  $L = L_{(0)}$ .

### Definition: graded Lie superalgebra

A **graded Lie superalgebra** is a Lie superalgebra  $L$  together with a grading compatible with the bracket and supergrading. That is,  $L = \bigoplus_{m \geq 1} L_m$  such that  $[L_i, L_j] \subset L_{i+j}$  and  $L_{(i)} = \bigoplus_{m \geq 1} L_{2m-i}$  for  $i = 0, 1$ .

# Koszul dual as universal envelope

## Koszul dual as universal envelope

Assume that  $A = T(V)/I$  is commutative, hence  $\bigwedge^2 V \subset I$ . Therefore  $I^\perp$  is contained in  $S^2(V^*)$ , and so is generated by certain linear combinations of anti-commutators  $[a_i^*, a_j^*] = a_i^* a_j^* + a_j^* a_i^*$ . As a consequence, the Koszul quadratic dual of  $A$  can be described as the universal envelope of a graded Lie superalgebra,

$$A^\natural = U(L), \quad L = \bigoplus_{m \geq 1} L_m = \mathbb{L}(V^*)/J, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbb{L}$  is the free Lie superalgebra functor, the space of (odd) generators  $V^*$  is concentrated in degree 1, and  $J$  is the Lie ideal with the same generators as  $I^\perp$  but viewed as linear combinations of supercommutators.

# Some Lie ideals

The following Lie ideals are main characters of our work.

## Definition

For  $k \geq 2$ , we define the graded Lie superalgebras

$$L_{\geq k} = \bigoplus_{m \geq k} L_m.$$



# The algebra of syzygies (I)

Definition: the algebra of syzygies

Let  $A$  be a commutative  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra which is a module over  $S(V)$ , and suppose we have a minimal free resolution of  $A$ ,

$$\cdots \rightarrow F_2 \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F_0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0.$$

This is an exact sequence of graded free  $S(V)$ -modules,

$$F_p = \bigoplus_{q \geq m_p} R_{pq} \otimes S(V),$$

where  $R_{pq}$  is the finite dimensional vector spaces of  **$p$ -th order syzygies of degree  $q$**  for  $A$ , and  $m_p$  is the minimum degree among the  $p$ -th order syzygies.

# The algebra of syzygies (II)

## Syzygies and the Koszul complex

- Since the chosen resolution is minimal, the differential vanishes on tensoring this complex with the trivial  $S(V)$ -module  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- Hence

$$\mathrm{Tor}_p^{S(V)}(A, \mathbb{C}) = R_p := \bigoplus_{q \geq m_p} R_{pq}.$$

## The algebra of syzygies (III)

- The functor  $\text{Tor}^{S(V)}$  may also be calculated by resolving the other argument  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- The Koszul complex  $K(S(V))$  of the symmetric algebra  $S(V) = \mathbb{C}[a_1, \dots, a_n]$ , is given by  $(S(V) \otimes \wedge W, d_K)$ , that is,

$$(\mathbb{C}[a_1, \dots, a_n] \otimes \wedge(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n), d_K). \quad (2)$$

with the Koszul differential  $d_K$  of the sequence  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ .

## The algebra of syzygies (IV)

Since this complex is a resolution of  $\mathbb{C}$  we can calculate the syzygies  $R_p$  of the quadratic algebra  $A = T(V)/I$  by the homology of the complex

$$A \otimes_{S(V)} K(S(V)) = A \otimes_{S(V)} S(V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \bigwedge W = A \otimes \bigwedge W.$$

This homology inherits a multiplication from  $K(S(V))$  and becomes an associative algebra.

# Cohomology of $L_{\geq 2}$

## Theorem [4, 12, 9]

Let  $A = T(V)/I$  be a commutative Koszul algebra,  $R = \bigoplus_p R_p$  is its algebra of syzygies and  $A^\dagger = T(V^*)/I^\perp = U(L)$  is its Koszul dual.

Then  $R_{pq} \cong H^{q-p}(L_{\geq 2}, \mathbb{C})_q$  as algebras.

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[4] Berkovits, N.; *Cohomology in the pure spinor formalism for the superstring*, J. High Energy Phys. 9 (2000).

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# Lie ideals and the algebra of syzygies

- So  $H^*(L_{\geq 2}, \mathbb{C})$  gives indeed the algebra of syzygies of  $A$ .

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- So  $H^*(L_{\geq 2}, \mathbb{C})$  gives indeed the algebra of syzygies of  $A$ .
- The interpretation of the algebras  $L_{\geq k}$  for  $k > 2$  was outlined by Berkovits in [4].

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# Lie ideals and the algebra of syzygies

- So  $H^*(L_{\geq 2}, \mathbb{C})$  gives indeed the algebra of syzygies of  $A$ .
- The interpretation of the algebras  $L_{\geq k}$  for  $k > 2$  was outlined by Berkovits in [4].
- We concentrate on the case  $k = 3$ .

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# Berkovits Complex

Let  $A = \mathbb{C}[a_1, \dots, a_n]/I$  be commutative Koszul, with minimal set of generators  $\{\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_m\}$  of  $I$  representing lowest degree syzygies.

## Lemma

If the quadratic relations for  $A$  are defined by the formulas

$$\Gamma_k = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i a_j,$$

for  $k = 1, \dots, m$ , then the representative for the homology class in the algebra of syzygies defined by the sequence  $\{\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_m\}$  is

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_k = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i \theta_j, \quad k = 1, \dots, m$$

## Berkovits complex (II)

### Definition

The **Berkovits complex** of a commutative Koszul algebra  $A$  is

$$C_B(A) := A \otimes \bigwedge(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \otimes \mathbb{C}[y_1, \dots, y_m]$$

equipped with the **Berkovits differential**

$$d_B = d_K + d_{Ber} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} + \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i,j=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i \theta_j \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k},$$

where the  $y_k$  have homological degree two.

# Generalized syzygies

## Main Theorem [GGST 2011]

Let  $A$  be a commutative Koszul algebra and  $A^! = U(L)$ . Then,

$$H_*(C_B(A), d_B) \cong H^*(L_{\geq 3}, \mathbb{C}).$$

$H_*(C_B(A), d_B)$  is called the *algebra of generalized syzygies* of  $A$

# Tools for the proof: A result on DG algebras

## Key Lemma

- Let  $(C, d)$  be a commutative DG algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$ , nonnegatively graded and finitely generated in each degree.

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- Consider the DG ideal  $\langle \overline{B} \rangle$  of  $C$  generated by the augmentation ideal  $\overline{B} = \ker(\varepsilon)$ .

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- Consider the DG ideal  $\langle \bar{B} \rangle$  of  $C$  generated by the augmentation ideal  $\bar{B} = \ker(\varepsilon)$ .
- If  $\langle \bar{B} \rangle$  is freely generated as a  $\bar{B}$ -module by a graded basis of homogeneous elements  $Z = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} Z_i$ , then  $C$  is quasi-isomorphic to  $C/\langle \bar{B} \rangle$ .

# The Chevalley complex

Assume that  $A$  is a commutative Koszul algebra with  $A^! = U(L)$  as above. We construct a resolution of  $A$  in the category of DG algebras from the Chevalley complex of  $L$ .

**Definition:** the Chevalley complex

The **Chevalley complex** of  $L$  is the cochain complex with

$$\mathrm{Ch}^i(L) = \left( \bigwedge^i L \right)^*$$

and the differential  $d_C : \mathrm{Ch}^k(L) \rightarrow \mathrm{Ch}^{k+1}(L)$

$$(d_C \varphi)(x_0, \dots, x_k) = \sum_{i < j} (-1)^{j+\varepsilon(i,j)} \varphi(x_0, \dots, x_{i-1}, [x_i, x_j], x_{i+1}, \dots, \widehat{x}_j, \dots, x_k)$$



## Some properties of the Chevalley complex

- $d_C : \text{Ch}^1(L) \rightarrow \text{Ch}^2(L)$  is the map that is dual to the bracket,

$$(d_C f)(x_0, x_1) = -f[x_0, x_1].$$

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- The Chevalley complex is a cochain complex that calculates the cohomology of  $L$  with trivial coefficients,  $H^*(L, \mathbb{C})$ .
- This complex admits an algebra structure that descends to one on the cohomology of  $L$  so that the differential  $d_C$  is a derivation with respect to its product.

That is, given  $\varphi \in (\wedge^i L)^*$  and  $\psi \in (\wedge^j L)^*$ ,

$$\varphi \odot \psi \in (\wedge^{i+j} L)^* \text{ and } d_C(\varphi \odot \psi) = d_C\varphi \odot \psi \pm \varphi \odot d_C\psi.$$

# The Chevalley complex as a chain complex

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- As well as being a *cochain complex* whose cohomology is that of  $L$ , the Chevalley complex may also be considered a *chain complex*.
- The chain complex is given by defining  $L_p^*$  to have homological grading  $p - 1$ , so that the homological and cohomological gradings together give the total degree in  $\bigwedge L^*$ .

## The Chevalley complex as a chain complex (II)

We illustrate the Chevalley complex as a chain complex with homological grading as follows:

$$\mathrm{Ch}_3(L) \xrightarrow{d_C} \mathrm{Ch}_2(L) \xrightarrow{d_C} \mathrm{Ch}_1(L) \xrightarrow{d_C} \mathrm{Ch}_0(L) \longrightarrow 0$$

$$0 \longrightarrow L_1^* \longrightarrow 0$$

$$0 \longrightarrow L_2^* \longrightarrow \bigwedge^2 L_1^* \longrightarrow 0$$

$$0 \longrightarrow L_3^* \longrightarrow L_2^* \wedge L_1^* \longrightarrow \bigwedge^3 L_1^* \longrightarrow 0$$

The original cohomological grading is seen on the diagonals.

# The Chevalley complex as resolution

In our situation of a graded Lie superalgebra  $L$  with  $A^! = U(L)$  we observe that

$$\mathrm{Ch}_0(L) = \bigwedge L_1^* = S(V).$$

## Proposition

For a commutative Koszul algebra  $A$  with  $A^! = U(L)$ , the chain complex given by the Chevalley complex of  $L$  with homological grading is a resolution of  $A$ .

# Lifting the Berkovits differential

## The setup

We have a basis  $\{q_1, \dots, q_m\}$  of  $L_2^*$  such that

$$q_k = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k \{a_i, a_j\},$$

and by construction,

$$d_C(q_k) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i a_j$$

for  $k = 1, \dots, m$ .



# Lifting the Berkovits differential (II)

## The Berkovits differential

Define  $Y$  as:

$$\text{Ch}(L) \otimes \bigwedge(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \otimes \mathbb{C}[y_1, \dots, y_m],$$

with an obvious graded algebra structure.

We can try to lift the Berkovits differential to  $Y$  as follows:

$d_C + d_K + d_{Ber}$  where

$$d_{Ber} = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i \theta_j \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k}.$$

# Lifting the Berkovits differential (III)

## The correction term

However, one checks that

$$(d_C + d_K + d_{Ber})^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i a_j \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k} \neq 0.$$

In order for the differential to square to zero, we define a correction to the differential as

$$d_S = - \sum_{k=1}^m q_k \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k}.$$

# Lifting the Berkovits differential (IV)

## Proposition

$$(d_C + d_K + d_{Ber} + d_S)^2 = 0.$$

# The Resolution of $\mathbb{C}$ inside $Y$ (I)

## Proposition

The subalgebra  $T$  of  $Y$  given by:

$$\text{Ch}(L_1, L_2) \otimes \bigwedge (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \otimes \mathbb{C}[y_1, \dots, y_m]$$

is a resolution of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

This subcomplex is equipped with the differential

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} + \sum_{k=1}^m \left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i \theta_j - q_k \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_k} + \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i,j=1}^n \Gamma_{ij}^k a_i a_j \frac{\partial}{\partial q_k}.$$

# The Resolution of $\mathbb{C}$ inside $Y$ (II)

## Step 1

The Koszul complex  $(P, d_K)$  of the sequence  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n$  in  $\text{Ch}(L_1)$  and the Koszul complex  $(Q, d_S)$  of  $y_1, \dots, y_m$  in  $\text{Ch}(L_2)$  are contractible, as is the product  $(P \otimes Q, d_K + d_S)$ .

## Step 2

We perturb the differential on  $P \otimes Q$  to the differential on  $T$  by using the homological perturbation lemma.

## Step 3

The perturbed homotopy is well-defined, so  $T$  has a strong deformation retraction to  $(\mathbb{C}, 0)$  concentrated in degree zero.

# Proof of Main Theorem (I)

- We have that  $T$  is a subalgebra in  $Y$ .

# Proof of Main Theorem (I)

- We have that  $T$  is a subalgebra in  $Y$ .
- We showed in a Proposition above that  $T$  is a resolution of  $\mathbb{C}$ . This satisfies the conditions of the Key Lemma and  $Y$  is quasi-isomorphic to  $Y/\langle \bar{T} \rangle$ , where  $\langle \bar{T} \rangle$  is the DG ideal in  $Y$  generated by the augmentation ideal of  $T$ . Hence,  
$$H_i(Y) = H_i(Y/\langle \bar{T} \rangle) = H_i(\text{Ch}(L_{\geq 3})).$$

## Proof of Main Theorem (II)

- Now, consider the filtration of  $Y$

$$\{0\} \subset F_0 Y \subset F_1 Y \subset \cdots \subset F_n Y \subset \cdots,$$

given by

$$F_p Y_q := \sum_{j \leq p} \sum_{i+j=p+q} \text{Ch}_j(L) \otimes \left( \bigwedge (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \otimes \mathbb{C}[y_1, \dots, y_m] \right)_j.$$



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- The differential on the  $E_0$ -term of the spectral sequence associated to this filtration is  $d_C$ .

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- The differential on the  $E_0$ -term of the spectral sequence associated to this filtration is  $d_C$ .
- Since,  $\bigwedge (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \otimes \mathbb{C}[y_1, \dots, y_m]$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$ , it is flat as a  $\mathbb{C}$ -module.

## Proof of main theorem (III)

- As  $\text{Ch}(L)$  is a resolution for  $A$ , we can conclude that the  $E_1$ -term of the spectral sequence is contained in one line and is given by,

$$A \otimes \bigwedge (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \otimes \mathbb{C}[y_1, \dots, y_m]$$

with precisely the Berkovits differential  $d_B$ .





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$$A \otimes \bigwedge (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \otimes \mathbb{C}[y_1, \dots, y_m]$$

with precisely the Berkovits differential  $d_B$ .

- Hence, the homology of this complex is also  $H_*(C_b(A), d_B)$  the homology of the Berkovits complex.

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